



CLARENCE MACKAY'S
"ORCHILL HOUSE,"
Scotland.

A Melodrama in High Life Called - "THE CURSE OF A DYING WOMAN"

"I Wish Her All the
Unhappiness That Is Her
Due," Declares Mrs. Katherine
Ketchum Blake, of the Former Mrs.
Clarence Mackay, Now the Wife of
World-Famous
Surgeon at Head
of War Hospital.



MRS. KATHERINE
DUR BLAKE.

"I AM a dying woman," says Mrs. Katherine Ketchum Blake. "For Dr. Joseph A. Blake, whom I divorced yesterday, I still feel the same love that I always did because of the great good he has done for humanity. As for Mrs. Katherine Duer, the former wife of Charles H. Mackay, who married my former husband in Paris today, I wish all the unhappiness that is her just due may come to her."

With these words, so womanly, so bitter and so sweet, the curtain goes down on the last act of one of the most startling melodramas ever staged by high society.

The cast of characters is of international prominence. Dr. Joseph A. Blake, who permitted his wife to obtain a divorce decree and then the day after married the woman who his ex-wife asserts broke up their happy home, is America's most famous surgeon and is at the head of the American ambulance corps caring for wounded soldiers in Paris.

Mrs. Katherine Duer, the woman he married, formerly was the wife of the multi-millionaire, Clarence H. Mackay, owner of the Postal Telegraph Company. She is one of the most gifted women in America. She has written two novels, was one of the first American women to embrace equal suffrage and has actively participated in all lines of public endeavor open to women, and many which were not.



DR. JOSEPH A.
BLAKE.



CLARENCE H.
MACKAY.



The first act of this absorbing melodrama opened a year ago last September when Mrs. Blake began an action for \$1,000,000 against Mrs. Katherine Duer Mackay, charging alienation of the affections of Dr. Blake. After proceedings had been carried on in and out of court for several weeks the suit was dropped, as was also a suit in which Mrs. Blake sought a separation and \$1,500 a month alimony.

Dr. and Mrs. Blake had lived apart for some time before this, and when Dr. Blake sailed for Europe last March it was said that the suits were closed incidents. Before leaving New York, however, Dr. Blake withdrew from many clubs and hospitals. He took with him several trunks filled with surgical instruments and sold his Connecticut estate.

After Mrs. Blake began her first action, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay went to the divorce courts and came away two unmarried beings. It was in France that it happened and the court dissolved the marriage without reflection on either of the litigants.

"She is simply a victim of her own overpowering jealousy," was Mrs. Mackay's contemptuous answer to Mrs. Blake's suit for alienation. "For nine years Mrs. Blake and her husband have lived apart. For years Mrs. Blake tried to injure her husband's reputation and mine by spreading among Dr. Blake's patients unjust rumors regarding his conduct. I deny the charges she is making against me."

"All is over now," said Mrs. Blake, after she had been told of the marriage of Dr. Blake to Mrs. Mackay. "I was forced to obtain a divorce to protect my youngest son. I wished to make provision for his guardianship after I am gone. However, I did hope they might wait a little while, it would not have been for long, before doing this thing."

"I had suffered so much, that I had hoped that this blow might be spared me. I just feel beaten. I have always been bitterly opposed to divorce. While I am not Catholic the idea of divorced persons remarrying during the lifetime of their

former spouses has seemed unspeakable to me. I never could regard that sort of thing as marriage."

"For years I have been an invalid with heart lesions. During my last illness, which was critical, I determined to put aside my own convictions for the sake of my son's future. I wanted to have proper guardians appointed, and so I sued for divorce."

"I feel that I have not long to live and I want to be spared any further sufferings because of my own scruples."

"There is nothing I can say about Dr. Blake. He is a most remarkable man. The wonderful amount of good he has done for humanity should make everybody feel toward him as I do, forgiving and kindly. My children have been taught to respect him for the wonderful work he has done and to love him."

"I cannot understand it all! I know Dr. Blake loved his sons as much as I do. But one woman's influence was forcible enough to take him miles away from them and break up his home. I find it impossible to break a habit of thirty years. I will always feel the same toward Dr. Blake and will always regard him as my husband."

The woman who won Dr. Blake away from his first wife has lived without experiencing a dull moment.

She was a leader in the most exclusive set in America and has many times defended the women of the "400." "It is such a mistake to fancy that women who have leisure and money are indifferent and frivolous," she says.

She was one of the first women in America to become interested in woman suffrage and to work for its advancement. As president of the Equal Franchise Society, one of the earliest formed suffrage societies in the United States, she accomplished a vast amount of pioneer work.

Her theories of woman's worth in social and political life she put into actual practice. Several years ago she ran for a position on the school board at Roslyn, L. I., where her husband's fine residence is located. She won easily over her man opponent and kept school affairs humming in the right direction after her election.



MRS. JOSEPH A. BLAKE.

A few summers ago, when it looked as if a panic were about to sweep the country, Mrs. Mackay startled everybody by bringing through the New York customs office \$15,000 worth of summer gowns which she had purchased in Europe. It was the record for one woman's importation of summer wearing apparel. It has been estimated that Mrs. Mackay spends \$30,000 yearly on her gowns.

It was not so long ago that Mrs. Mackay wrote a novel entitled "The Stone of Destiny." Is it possible that the philosophy of love she expresses indicated that even then she foresaw the destiny which she herself is now meeting?

"I dedicate this book to the one for whom it is written," is printed on the dedication page. Was this a dedication to her husband or to someone else? And again, one is inclined to ask, just how much of herself has she written into this book?

Many suggestions about love and marriage find their way into the novel which, many people think, reflect Mrs. Mackay's own experiences.

"The most promising marriages are often wretched failures," she says in this novel, "only because the husband reacts on the wife."

At first his infatuation deceives him into seeing another tangible being in what is merely the reflection of part of his personality. Presently, when the mirror into which he looks

blurs or cracks, or even breaks, he sees the phantom of his happiness vanish.

"Man should create from every obstacle through which he passes."

"Some women find happiness even in living in a mirror."

"A woman will wonder whether her husband thinks she looks well in her new gown which was made in the style he admired."

"Some men are too big of heart, too strong of nature, for women to marry."

"A woman wants to feel the arms of the man she loves around her, his kisses on her face, those kisses soft as the fluttering of birds' wings against her cheeks."

"Love is life, and sorrow is duty after a difference. Say to the man you love, 'Come with me, listen to me, for love is here and we have but to take it into our hearts.'"

"When a man says, 'Because I am young I love you all the more. You are the first woman in my life and I want you to be the only one,' try to love him."

"In everyone's life the time comes when love cannot rock ambition to sleep."

"A time comes when love will grow pale in the withering presence of satiety."

"A man's silence first irritates and then mortifies us."

"Unconsciously a husband and wife drift farther and farther away from each other. The parallel lines of their daily lives stretch across the summer months separated by what to him was a sheet of glass, but to her an opaque wall."

"Give up some of the love treasures which you hide in your heart to those who are hungry for it. Give a little of the love which must be hidden somewhere."

"Love a woman for her way, for a little while. If you want true love make a man's will yours. If love is all between a husband and a wife there is no doubt. Love and doubt have always dwelt together in the young."

"Doubt is the shadow of love which we see in the early morning of knowledge. In the noon hour, when the sun has reached the meridian, there is no shadow, but unfortunately it sometimes haunts us again before the peace of twilight and the silence of the night."

"The silence of love will lay its gentle spell upon kindred, and they know of no other worlds beyond."

"A woman marshals her facts and surveys the fine, strong love of a man as though it were within the grasp of her hand."

"There are three kinds of women in the world. The most prevalent type is of what I call the shadow women, who drift over the world and never touch the earth, cannot know its joys or feel its sorrows. They come and go, and might as well have never been born."

"The second is of those who find great happiness, and from that derive the stimulus to find their vocation and fulfill it."

"The third and the rarest is of those who meet and travel with great sorrow, and in their aching hearts find their opportunity."

"Not always are the women who stand upon the mountain sides of history, as did Madame Roland and her kind, the ones who accomplish the best work. Sometimes by the fireside in the small house the mother breathes into her children's ears that which shall awaken their gifts and make them great upon the summit of humanity."

"It is not the enchantment of love, but the power of personality that overwhelms woman for man."

"Real sorrows will come soon enough of their own accord without our summoning, and both husband and wife shall share, as we turn the handle of the great wheel of life together."

"A woman blames a man for not being satisfied with what she had to give him of her love."